

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1848

despatch these applications, and about two hundred and fifty are daily investigated and passed. For the details of the business in the Pension Office, I respectfully refer you to the report of the Commissioner."

The report closes with an interesting notice on Indian affairs:—
 "The law of 1847, giving additional authority to prevent the introduction and sale of spirituous liquors in the Indian country, and the string regulations adopted by the Department to restrain the traffic, have sensibly diminished the amount of ardent spirits consumed by the Indians arising from that prolific source of evil. The effectual check to it cannot be applied, unless States lying adjacent to the Indian country co-operate in the measure by restraining their own sale of spirituous liquors within the reach of the Indians. The Government pays annuities semi-annually, and of distributing the *per capita*, has been attended by the happiest results. The new regulations in regard to liquor will be the Indian country, the rigid supervision over the conduct of the agent."

The report closes with an interesting notation on Indian affairs:

"The Law of 1847, giving additional authority to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, to prevent the introduction and sale of spirituous liquors in the Indian country, and the string regulations adopted by the Department to restrain the traffic in such liquors, have diminished the amount of suffering among the frontier tribes arising from that prolific source of evil; but additional check to it cannot be applied, until the States of the Indian Territory are admitted to the Union, and the Government can then more fully cooperate in the measure by restraining their issues from bringing intoxicating liquors within the reach of the Indians. The policy of restraint, which has been pursued by the Government, per capita, has been attended by the happiest results. The new regulations in regard to licenses to trade with the Indians, and the rigid supervision over the export to the Indian country,

"No subject connected with our Indian education has been so thoroughly discussed and debated as that of the Government's attitude toward the Indians. It is able to say that its efforts to advance this cause have been crowned with success. Among most things noted in the Indian country, the blessings of education are beginning to be appreciated, and the Government is determined to cooperate with the people in their desire to receive it. The schools already established have an increasing number of pupils, and preparations are making for the opening of new ones. This is due to many Christian missionary societies, of different school denominations, for their aid in carrying on the work of the cause of education among the Indian population.

"There are sixteen manual-labor schools, thirty-seven boarding and district schools now open, and about twenty day schools. The enrollment, both the number of Indian youths attending

then, according to the reports received at the Department, the number of persons in the eighty-two of which two thousand six hundred and fifty are males, and the remaining one thousand and seventy-two are females. The schools are generally in good condition, and the work is well conducted. These facts afford the most gratifying evidence that nearly all of our colored people are now in a position to receive a moral improvement, and I trust it may not be improper on this occasion for me to say, that for the first time in the history of this country, the numerous Indian tribes are under the guardianship of the Government is extended to the colored people, and most notably to the freedmen, no stinted measure of credit has been applied to the ability, industry, and faithfulness of that branch of this Department to which the general supervision of the freedmen and colored affairs is assigned.

Within the newly acquired Territories there is a large and increasing population of colored people, and the supervision necessary to be extended; but this cannot be effectually executed without the aid of Congress on the subject. Additional appropriations are necessary.

dian affairs in these Territories, and to extend them our Indian system of control and management, so that our country may have more readily produced such happy results, and is able to promise for the future.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE NATIONAL GUARDIAN, occupying nearly six columns of the issue, embracing the great subject of the Union, embraced every aspect of the question very little interest to the people generally.

Two columns of the report are devoted statement of the present disposition of our and a narrative of the final operations of squadrons on the Mexican coast.

A flattering tribute is paid to the conduct of our fleet by the admiral in command of the navy in its cooperation with the army under General Scott, in its descent on Vera Cruz.

The report recognizes the wisdom of the policy of this country, which demands, in time of war, a comparatively small naval establishment:

"The establishment of docks and yards, and the purchase of ships, has been limited

[illegible]

In regard to the principle of promotion, it recommends a modification of the present system which promotes promotions by seniority of commission and best mode, it appears to require by law that officers rendered useful duty, otherwise than by wounds received in action, should be promoted to the next higher grades, should be placed, on reduced pay, the line of promotion. Justice and policy require that the law should be so amended as to secure such a power expressly, or at least a due regard to the rights of all.¹⁷

The naval school at Annapolis is strongly commended, as affording the best means for educating officers for the navy.

The number of steamers for the Pacific

"The connected lines, in all their parts, are expected, be in successful operation ere the ensuing spring, and a regular communication will be maintained between New York and the Pacific. The time occupied in the passage will not exceed five-to-five days, and, at no distant day, it is confidently believed that a regular communication will be maintained between San Francisco and China, making the passage in twenty days. This may readily be accomplished, by the employment of steamships, constructed, as parts of the squadron in the Indies and the Pacific, until individual enterprises are enabled to steamers better suited to freight and passengers.

"The transit of intelligence, merchandise and passengers, from China to Europe, by way of the Pacific, will be a great advantage, and shall be in operation in connection with those that travel to Liverpool, in less than one month, and will occur on the voyage to that country.

"The communication by steamers requiring only a few days, will be a great advantage, and shall be in operation in connection with those that travel to Liverpool, in less than one month, and will occur on the voyage to that country.

The Secretary recommends that authority be given to construct for the transportation mail between Vera Cruz and New Orleans steamships, convertible into war steamers. intercourse will foster good feeling between two countries, and facilitate their trade.

The contractor for the line between New Orleans and Liverpool has his vessels in a state of readiness. As perfection of workmanship, object of vast importance, it has been adopted not to hurry him.

I have the honor to submit the report of the Secretary of the Department, with estimates for the naval service, and for other

This image shows a blank, aged, cream-colored page, likely an endpaper or flyleaf from an old book. The paper has a slightly textured appearance with some minor discoloration and a small dark spot near the center. There is no text or other markings on the page.

For years to come, will be bound to engage in numerous elections for members of the State Legislatures and for Congress, that must decide on the very questions concerning which the Alliance Letter is silent!

It would rather puzzle one of these Taylor Republicans to tell what great things his party is to accomplish. "We go for the right of the majority to govern!" he exclaims—"that is our principle! Who denies it? Are bills passed in Congress by a minority? Does anybody propose that the majority shall be governed by the minority? Is it the intention of the Taylor Republican members of Congress to pass a law that the majority shall govern?"

"You don't take the idea," he persists. I mean

that we go against the exercise of the Veto power, except in cases of a clear violation of the Constitution, or manifestly hasty legislation." Well, the President-elect is with you. What do you want more? Is the Taylor Republican party in Congress about to propose that the Constitution be amended to prohibit the exercise of the Veto power, except as before questioned? Do you intend to make that, the great question of the next Administration?

"Oh, but we are utterly opposed to monarchy, monarchy, aristocracy, and tyrramism." Ah! this, then, is your platform. You intend to pass a bill in the next Congress, against the toleration of monarchy, monarchy, aristocracy, and tyrramism?"

The theory of the oriental philosopher, according to which the world rested on the back of a

toroise, has found its rival in this new project, which proposes to build an immense party on the basis of the Allison Letter.

Since writing the foregoing, a large meeting, called by some thousands of the citizens of Philadelphia, has been held in that place, the report of the proceedings of which is published at length in the *North American*. The meeting organized by the election of a President, and almost innumerable Vice Presidents and Secretaries. The following address and resolutions were submitted by Judge Coxe, and adopted:

ADDRESS.

The Alliance of General Tilden and

The military career of General Taylor has been closed, and the hero of many a hard-fought field, who never lost a battle, reposes on his laurels. His first campaign as a statesman has commenced. He has fought the battle of the ballot-box, and we salute him for having rallied under his victorious banner the millions who have rallied under his leadership to the cause of liberty and moral revolution, but to endeavor to secure to our country all the blessings expected to result from them by the elevation of our Chief to the Chair of Washington, by sustaining his Administration in carrying out the wholesome principles which were involved in the contest, and in opposing those who would attempt to overthrow for whose violation the present Federal Administration has been rebuked and repudiated by the People.

Without intending at this time to dilute upon the salaries and pay of the Taylor Republic, it may be proper to state that the Association is based upon the great principles of popular sovereignty, as proclaimed by General Taylor in his celebrated Allocated Letters, prior to his election, and now fully ratified by his countrymen.

These principles of popular rights and public interest will afford useful and intellectual occupation to the Society, while its exertions in the support of President Taylor and his Administration, in future local and general operations, are too obvious to require us to dwell on them in detail.

The Association will also be present at all the

Resolved, That this meeting do now resolve itself into a Society, to be called *The Taylor Republican Association.*

Resolved, That a Committee of — be appointed to prepare and report a constitution for the Association.

Resolved, That we congratulate all the People upon the triumph in the election of the candidate, General Zachary Taylor, to the Presidential chair, thereby sustaining their honest rights, their interests, and the Constitution of our country; and that we pledge ourselves to sustain the Taylor cause with industry and zeal to the best of our ability, in the Association we have instituted.

The Allison Letter, it seems, is to be the storehouse of wisdom for the new party. Its principles will afford "a useful and intellectual occupation" to its members. Night after night the old politicians, who have become as little children, and the young ones, who have no need to become such, will assemble with devout eagerness to improve their intellects by a profound study of—the mystic doctrine of the Veto Power, as propounded in the Allison Letter. The newly discovered and sublime truth that the "majority ought to govern always, except when the President thinks their government unconstitutional, and that other original Taylor Republican doctrine, as expounded by the Hon. John M. Clayton, that no toleration

After the Address and Resolutions, the rhetoric followed. Mr. Meredith stated that he was present, because he was a *Republican*. Mr. Mitchell said "there was a time when he [General Taylor] stood before the People only as a great and glorious military hero; but the progress of time revealed new traits in the old chief, and gave to his character the glory of a second Washington!" Mr. McMichael, one of the proprietors and editors

"That he did not want that men who have hitherto belonged to various parties should display a little hesitation in coming forward to unite thus in a new organization. But it must come to this in the end. The election of General Taylor was not a party or a national triumph, and he is not the President men are waiting for the whole People. As such an Executive, he will not be influenced by cliques, factions, or cabals. He said he knew that there were those who thought that movement premature. To such he would say that this is but the germ of a movement which will really get started very soon."

"Mr. McM. said, that in all his speeches in the late canvass he had asked for the election of General Taylor, not as the candidate of a party, but of the whole independent People. The canvass was a

Charles B. Penrose said:

"That the Taylor party of Pennsylvania, at the late election, was composed of 185,000 voters, and that the Taylor party of Pennsylvania, without distinction of party, rallied around the old chief, could not have been elected. And now that success had been attained, this movement endeavored to effect an organization which should give preeminence to our triumph."⁷

and shall this great patriotic army be dissolved? He had heard, with surprise, that there was so much opposition to this movement. He could tell us that it was not so, however it might be here, throughout the country there would be general approval of it. The People would rally to its support, and it would spread every where throughout the length and breadth of the land, embracing every true patriot who had disinterestedly united in the support of General Taylor. Tremendous cheering.

J. W. Ashmead followed, and in reply to a question by J. M. Kennedy, "as to whether the movement was intended to be a city, state, or national movement, the speaker replied that this was the goal of a movement which would spread all over the country. It would be responded to promptly from all quarters."

"W. S. Price, Esq., from the Committee draft a Constitution, then read the one which they had agreed upon. It was unanimously adopted. In relation to the purposes of the movement and its nationality, Mr. P. stated that he had announced had brought a committee from Trenton, N. J., to learn its plan and to follow its wake. This announcement was received with great applause.

"George Lippard, Esq., then addressed the meeting. He said that he united in the movement

